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PATENT  
450101-03636

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants : Satoru MAEDA et al.

Serial No. : 09/996,007

Filed : November 28, 2001

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Signature

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

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Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in  
37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure  
Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of  
the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the  
attention of applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued

in the corresponding European application on April 19, 2004. So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
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#6

Based on Form PTO-1449 (3/90)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 450101-03636	SERIAL NO. 09/996,007
	APPLICANT Satoru MAEDA et al.	
	FILING DATE November 28, 2001	GROUP 2611

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5 699 107	12/16/97	Lawler et al.			
	AB	5 907 323	05/25/99	Lawler et al.			
	AC						
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AL	EP 0 852 361	07/08/98	Europe				
	AM	WO 00 64150	10/26/00	PCT				
	AN	WO 00 46988	08/10/00	PCT				
	AO							
	AP							

## OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.